

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 3, all as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended): A tool for removing a contaminant from ~~cleaning~~ the surface of a workpiece, comprising:

a torch including:

a first source of combustible process gas;

an outer tube connected with the first source to communicate ~~[[a]]~~ the combustible process gas to generate a flame; ~~and~~

a second source of a reactive precursor that transforms in the presence of the flame to a reactive species that chemically combines with the contaminant; and

an inner tube nested within the outer tube and communicating to communicate a ~~the~~ reactive precursor from the second source to the flame;

a staging component operable to position the workpiece;

a translating component operable to translate at least one of the workpiece and the torch; and

said torch operable to combine a reactive species produced from the reactive precursor chemically with a contaminant on the surface of the workpiece to clean the surface of the workpiece.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended): A tool for removing a contaminant from ~~cleaning~~ the surface of a workpiece, comprising:

a torch including:

a first source of combustible process gas;

an outer tube connected with the first source to communicate ~~[[a]]~~ the combustible process gas to generate a flame; ~~and~~

a second source of a reactive precursor that transforms in the presence of the flame to a reactive species that chemically combines with the contaminant; and

an inner tube nested within the outer tube and communicating to communicate a ~~the~~ reactive precursor from the second source to the flame;

a translator that can translate at least one of a workpiece and said torch;

wherein said flame receives the reactive precursor and generates a reactive species capable of chemically combining with a contaminant on the surface of the workpiece to produce a gas and leave the surface.

4. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, further comprising:
a controlling component operable to generate a hydrogen-oxygen flame via the torch.
5. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, further comprising:
a controlling component operable to produce a stream of atomic radicals that can be used to modify a surface via the torch.
6. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, further comprising:
a controlling component operable to produce a stream that can modify a surface by a process selected from the group consisting of cleaning, passivating, and activating via the torch.
7. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, further comprising:
a controlling component operable to produce a stream of atomic radicals that can modify a surface by a process selected from the group consisting of shaping, polishing, etching, planarizing, and redepositing via the torch.
8. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, further comprising:
a flame suppressor in said torch.
9. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said process gas is one of a fuel and an oxidizer.
10. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said process gas is selected from the group consisting of oxygen and hydrogen.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said reactive precursor is selected from the group consisting of CF_4 , O_2 , Cl and NH_3 .

13. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said torch has a chemically inert metal tip.
14. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said translator is a rotational stage for supporting the workpiece and rotating the workpiece with
respect to the torch.
15. (Previously Presented): A tool according to claim 3, wherein:
said torch includes a multi-nozzle burner.
- 16.-22. (Canceled)
23. (Previously Presented): The tool of claim 3, wherein the flame is generated downstream from a
distal end of the inner tube.
24. (Previously Presented): The tool of claim 3, wherein the reactive precursor is introduced to the
torch upstream from the flame.